

BUDGET BRIEFING

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2016; 1:00 P.M.

705 W. University Avenue, Council Auditorium

Parks and Recreation, Community Development, Planning, Zoning and Development, Adult Corrections, Information Services

Council members in attendance: Kevin Naquin (District 1), Jay Castille (District 2), Pat Lewis (District 3), Jared Bellard (District 5), Bruce Conque (District 6 – Finance Vice-Chair), Nanette Cook (District 7), Liz Hebert (District 8), and William Theriot (District 9)

Absent: Kenneth Boudreaux (District 4 – Finance Chair)

Administration staff members in attendance: Mayor-President Joel Robideaux, CAO Lowell Duhon, CFO Lorrie Toups, Controller Melinda Felps, Budget Manager Kerney Simoneaux, Chief Budget Analyst Connie Trahan, Financial Analyst Laura Grettner, Parks and Recreation Director Gerald Boudreaux, Community Development Director Shanea Nelson, Planning, Zoning and Development Director Carlee Alm-LaBar, Lafayette Parish Correctional Center Warden Cathy Fontenot, Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office CFO Grayson LaCombe, Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office Budget Manager Paula Smith, Chief Information Officer Tonia Khosropour, and staff members representing these and other departments/agencies

Council staff members in attendance: Veronica L. Williams (Clerk of the Council) and Joseph Gordon-Wiltz (Assistant Clerk)

(Compact Disk #2)

(Time 1:05:25) Finance Vice-Chair Bruce Conque called the budget briefing to order.

Vice-Chair Conque welcomed everyone to today's budget briefing on the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-2017 budget. Citizens were instructed that a green speaker form should be filled out in order to address the Council and be submitted to Council Clerk Veronica Williams. He stated that the proposed budget document has been posted to the LCG website on the Finance page and that public comment would be held immediately following each department's budget review. Vice-Chair Conque identified the three possible actions that could be taken during the briefings. A Council member may propose changing the budget by: (1) a general amendment, when the entire Council agrees on a recommendation/proposed amendment; (2) a separate amendment, when a Council member objects to a recommended budget change; or (3) a Council member may choose to mark an item for wrap-up discussion to allow time to receive additional information. He also announced that Kenneth Boudreaux, Finance Chair, would be unable to attend today's meeting due to previously scheduled business and that Liz Hebert would be running late. Vice-Chair Conque then asked Jared Bellard to offer the invocation and to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked for any comments or remarks from Council members.

Jay Castille referred to Page 255 of the budget document and offered an amendment to zero out the \$50,000 appropriation for line item 58 FLOOD PLAIN MGMT and place those funds in a line item for the Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) personnel costs. CFO Toups explained that the \$50,000 came from the Dedicated Drainage millage and were restricted for use only for drainage purposes. Given this information, there would be no amendment; and CFO Toups would review the budget further for unrestricted funds that could be used for the VFDs.

Vice-Chair Conque asked for any comments or remarks from Mayor-President Joel Robideaux and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Lorrie Toups; however, no comments were offered by the Administration.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

(Time: 1:09:50) Controller Melinda Felps stated that the Parks and Recreation Department has a budget of \$10.4 million, which is funded by the City Parks and Recreation millage, the City General Fund, the golf courses, and a small portion from Charges for Services and the Unrestricted Parish General Fund. She stated that the allocation for the Parks and Recreation Department changed for the upcoming fiscal year, from being based on population to being based on full time equivalents (FTEs), which looks at the number of employees working in the City versus the number of employees working in the Parish. This resulted in a 90% City/10% Parish split. The golf courses allocation changed to 100% City. There have been no changes in personnel strength.

Vice-Chair Conque deferred to Parks and Recreation Director Gerald Boudreaux for opening statements on the proposed budget for the Parks and Recreation Department.

William Theriot questioned the number of parks, golf courses, and other facilities that the Parks and Recreation Department oversee. Mr. Boudreaux responded that the Department is responsible for the maintenance of 35 parks, ten (10) recreation centers, three (3) municipal golf courses, five (5) swimming pools, a campground, multi-purpose fields (soccer, baseball, and softball), and two (2) tennis centers (Beaver Park and Thomas Park). Mr. Boudreaux recognized that a number of municipalities around the Parish have seen the need to advance a recreation millage for their communities, which was also supported by recent needs assessments. He stated that many of the new sporting facilities that are being constructed throughout the Parish within municipalities are great facilities, but predicted that the facilities may not be sustainable because of the lack of a comprehensive emphasis on lifelong sports and recreational programs for all citizens.

Mr. Boudreaux took an opportunity to recognize staff members of the Parks and Recreation Department and members of the City/Parish Recreation Advisory Commission who were present.

Parks and Recreation Operating Expenses

Page 189 – Mr. Theriot questioned line items 2016100 70123-614 OTHER INSURANCE PREMIUMS-RM and 2016100 78000-0 UNINSURED LOSSES. CFO Toups explained that the other insurance premiums for Risk Management is an estimate for the property insurance premiums and the uninsured losses is also an estimate based on losses incurred thus far for the current year.

Page 190 – Pat Lewis questioned the difference between line items 2016130 50100-0 TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES and 2016130 70907-0 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES. Mr. Boudreaux responded that the temporary employees could be for programs such as soccer and the contractual services could be individuals or corporations that are contracted for various services.

****WRAP-UP ITEM BY LEWIS – Provide a listing of the expenditures within line item 2016130 70907-0 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES (Page 190) for the current year.****

Page 191 – Mr. Theriot requested the current actual expenditure for line item 2016131 70907-0 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES because, as reflected in the budget document, the current actual expenditure reflects \$136. Mr. Boudreaux stated that many of the contractual services expenditures for the swimming pools are not reflected until after March 31st and once the swimming pools begin opening (at the printing of the budget document, these expenditures had not yet been realized). CFO Toups stated that the current actual expenditure is \$14,000. Mr. Theriot also requested the current actual expenditure for 2016131 72700-0

SUPPLIES & MATERIALS. Ms. Felps responded that the current actual expenditure is \$26,086.

Page 193 – Mr. Theriot questioned the negative percentage change to the 2096170 50400-0 GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE line item. CFO Toups explained how variations in the number of employees and the amount of coverage have an impact on this expenditure.

Parks and Recreation Five-Year Capital

There was no discussion in this section.

Parks and Recreation Capital Appropriations

There was no discussion in this section.

Parks and Recreation Manning Tables

There was no discussion in this section.

► Comments from the Public

- **Jennifer Simms** addressed the Council in support of the aquatics program at the O.J. Mouton Pool and the summer camps.
- **Marcus Theunissen** addressed the Council in support of Moore Park improvements in association with the Lafayette Youth Soccer Association.
- **Sarah Landreneau** and **Gabby Johnson** addressed the Council in support of the aquatics program.
- **William Phillips** addressed the Council in support of tennis in public parks.
- **Robyn Blackwell** addressed the Council in support of therapeutic recreation programs.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

(Time: 2:01:37) Vice-Chair Conque deferred to Community Development Director Shanea Nelson for opening statements on the proposed budget for the Community Development Department. Dr. Nelson gave a brief overview of the role of the Community Development Department and took an opportunity to introduce members of her management staff in attendance.

Ms. Felps stated that the Community Development Department's operating budget is \$5.6 million, which does not include capital or grant funding (the grant funding is from federal, state, and local sources and is not initially budgeted). She noted a significant reduction in funding and positions since 2008, associated with the elimination of the Acadiana Recovery Center and the Drug Court. The allocation method for the Community Development Department changed from being based on population to being based on a percentage of unrestricted tax revenue in the City and Parish General Funds. Once the allocation method was changed, that portion attributable to the Parish for external agencies was \$82,700, which was completely cut from the budget. The allocation method for the Heymann Performing Arts changed from being based on population to being covered 100% by the City.

Vice-Chair Conque asked what happened to the Acadiana Recovery Center and the Drug Court. CFO Toups

responded that that the Acadiana Recovery Center is now the responsibility of the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office and that the Drug Court is now under the 15th Judicial District Court.

Community Development Operating Expenses

Page 197 – Mr. Theriot questioned line item 1018100 76040-0 EXT APP-ACAD CTR FOR THE ARTS and what it covers. CFO Toups explained that LCG owns the Acadiana Center for the Arts (ACA) building, so these funds are made available to the ACA to maintain it and, in some cases, make capital improvements. Mr. Theriot also questioned line item 1018100 76025-0 EXT APP-ARTS & CULTURE GRANTS. CFO Toups explained that many external appropriations line items of an arts and culture nature were zeroed out and placed within this line item. Following Mr. Lewis' inquiry, Dr. Nelson explained the competitive process, administered by the ACA, for external agencies wishing to apply for funding from the arts and culture grants line item. Mr. Robideaux offered comments on this topic and his rationale for moving toward a competitive process for arts and culture grants, now consisting only of City funds (100% City allocation). Kevin Naquin asked for clarification of the allocation method, to which CFO Toups confirmed that no Parish funding has been contributed toward any of the funds in the arts and culture line item.

Page 205 – Mr. Theriot questioned line item 2058182 74000-204 INT APP-HPACC FUND in the amount of \$116,487 and referenced account number 0170 Gen'l Accts: HPACC Transfer on Page 50 in the amount of \$511,634. He requested information on the difference between these two line items. Ms. Felps responded that there are two (2) HPACC funds: one fund holds all of the costs and revenues associated with productions. If there is money remaining in this fund at the end of the year, it transfers over to the commission fund (Fund 204 – the main operating fund of HPACC). CFO Toups added that the 205 line item numbering convention and its 204 designation at the end of the line item (2058182 74000-204) represents a transfer from Fund 205 to Fund 204. She added that the transfer identified on the City/Parish allocation table is the anticipated subsidy that HPACC expects to have in 2017.

Page 206 – Vice-Chair Conque asked whether the Nature Station is funded completely by the City of Lafayette. CFO Toups later responded that the Nature Station is, indeed, funded 100% by the City of Lafayette.

Community Development Five-Year Capital

There was no discussion in this section.

Community Development Capital Appropriations

There was no discussion in this section.

Community Development Manning Tables

There was no discussion in this section.

► Comments from the Public

No citizens signed in to address the Council.

PLANNING, ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT:

(Time: 2:44:00) Vice-Chair Conque deferred to Planning, Zoning and Development (PZD) Director Carlee Alm-LaBar for opening statements on the proposed budget for the PZD Department. She took an opportunity to introduce members of her management staff in attendance.

Ms. Felps stated that the PZD Department's operating budget is approximately \$4.2 million, mostly generated from the Codes & Permits Fund (sale of permits). She added that there was no allocation change to the PZD budget. Ms. Felps shared that in 2008, the PZD budget was \$2.6 million, which has almost doubled today, but is attributed to organizational changes, such as some personnel from the Traffic & Transportation Department being transferred over to PZD. CFO Toups added that there was a reduction of one (1) employee in the proposed budget.

Planning, Zoning and Development Operating Expenses

Page 212 – Liz Hebert questioned if there is a certain line item that covers software updates to improve customer service. Mrs. Alm-LaBar responded that such updates could come from a variety of line items throughout the PZD budget.

Vice-Chair Conque asked whether the transition was completed to the Acadiana Planning Commission operations. Mrs. Alm-LaBar responded in the affirmative and introduced staff members of the Acadiana Planning Commission who were in attendance.

Page 213 – Mrs. Alm-LaBar explained the proposal to cross-train inspectors within the Department across the disciplines/trades of PZD, which explains the increase to line item 2999020 50300-0 PROMOTION COSTS.

Planning, Zoning and Development Five-Year Capital

There was no discussion in this section.

Planning, Zoning and Development Capital Appropriations

There was no discussion in this section.

Planning, Zoning and Development Manning Tables

There was no discussion in this section.

► Comments from the Public

No citizens signed in to address the Council.

ADULT CORRECTIONS:

(Time: 2:55:55) CFO Toups stated that the operating budget for Adult Corrections is \$4.7 million. The Lafayette Parish Correctional Center does have its own property tax, some of which is being used for capital expenditures (approximately \$3 million). She added that the amount of money that is needed to subsidize the

Correctional Center Fund comes from the Courthouse Complex Fund property tax. CFO Toups stated that in coming years, the amount of money available for capital expenditures will be reduced.

Vice-Chair Conque deferred to Lafayette Parish Correctional Center Warden Cathy Fontenot, Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office CFO Grayson LaCombe, and Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office Budget Manager Paula Smith, who offered brief opening statements on the proposed budget for Adult Corrections.

Adult Corrections Operating Expenses

There was no discussion in this section.

Adult Corrections Capital Appropriations

There was no discussion in this section.

Adult Corrections Manning Tables

There was no discussion in this section, as manning tables are not applicable to the proposed budget.

► Comments from the Public

No citizens signed in to address the Council.

INFORMATION SERVICES:

(Time: 3:02:07) Vice-Chair Conque deferred to Chief Information Officer (CIO) Tonia Khosropour for opening statements on the proposed budget for the Information Services & Technology (IS&T) Department. She took an opportunity to introduce members of her management staff in attendance.

Ms. Felps stated that the Information Services operating budget is \$5.8 million (79% City General Fund). She added that there has been a change in allocation method from being based on population to being based on unrestricted sales tax revenue.

Information Services Operating Expenses

There was no discussion in this section.

Information Services Capital Appropriations

There was no discussion in this section.

Information Services Manning Tables

There was no discussion in this section.

► Comments from the Public

No citizens signed in to address the Council.

Vice-Chair Conque invited citizens to attend the Public Hearing for Citizen Input to address any matter related to the proposed budget, which will be held on Tuesday, August 23, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. He declared the conclusion of today's briefing and stated that the next budget briefing will be held on Thursday, August 11, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. for the following Departments: Lafayette Utilities System (LUS) & Capital and LUS Communications (Fiber Services).

There being no further business, the briefing was adjourned at 3:07 p.m.